# A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, July 3. 1707.

I Am now come to the ſecond Part of the reciprocal Duty of the reſpective Nations and Parties in *Britain* upon the Conſequence of the Union, and that is, as it reſpects Civil Government.

My Argument, why we ſhould behave well in this Caſe, will not be drawn either from Religion, tho' Obedience to the Laws of the Land are a Part of the Duty of the Subjects, as they are Chriſtians—But I am rather deſirous to talk to the Politick Capacities of the People before me, than to the Matter as it becomes a Religious Duty.

The Civil Government of *Britain* is every Mans Security, 'tis every Mans Bleſſing, and 'tis every Mans Debt both to himſelf and his Poſterity to preſerve it. Now pray, Gentlemen, how ſhall the Civil Government be ſettled, ſupported and upheld? How ſhall the Hearts of Subjects be united to their Monarch, and brought to embrace the general Intereſt of the Nation, when they are not united one to another? How ſhall the Peace and Proſperity of the Publick be ſecured; if private Peace be not the Foundation; if we are not joyning our Intereſts, and joyning our Hearts, and joyning our Hands, how ſhall we be able to joyn our Forces, how ſhall we guard our Sovereign, defend our Laws, protect our Commerce, or guard our Liberties, if we are not united in Affection, Intereſt, Expectation, and Defence?

How ſhall one Nation be govern'd by one Prince, and form'd into one Conſtitution, if we be not of one Mind? How can we ſtand upon one Foundation, uphold one general Intereſt, and be one united Kingdom, if we are not one in Intereſt, one in Affection—and one in Deſire? Will you contradict

contradict the Words of our Saviour, and pretend, *a Kingdom divided against it self shall stand?*

With Respect therefore to the Support of Civil Government and Universal Politie, it is absolutely necessary we should have Civil Peace—And here, Gentlemen, after all Her Majesty has said to us from the Throne, I cannot be suppos'd to have Room to say much—But I think there is something to be touch'd at, which Her Majesty has not thought needful to mention to you, (I dare say, the QUEEN could not think any of her Subjects so defective in their Duty,) *viz.* There are but too many among us, who really would have no Civil Government at all, and if these need a Word of Exhortation with Respect to themselves, or Detection with Respect to others, I hope, I shall not intrench upon what any Body has said before me, nor enter upon a needless Work.

'Tis hard to say, People would have no Government at all; but what shall we say to some People, whose Genius leads them to be Malecontents and Murmurers in every Reign, quarrelling with Laws, Magistrates, and all that espouse them; Let them be of what Principle they will? Or what shall we say to another Sort of People, who will bear with no Government but Tyranny, and yet will not bear Tyranny neither; that hate Liberty, and yet fly out at Tyranny: that love not to be tyranniz'd over, but yet love to be Tyrants themselves?

These are some of the principal People I have to do with; they were the Tools of Tyrants in former Reigns; they prompted all the Encroachments upon the Lives and Liberties of these People in either Nation; they shared the Plunder, and took the Spoil of their Neighbours, and no Man knows to what Length they would have run, had not Providence and the Change of Scenes put a Check to them—Well, in their Turn they came to be pinch'd, and they were the first that flew in the Face of their Master, tho' the Lords anointed too, as much as any one they had pretended to serve.

By their Resistance, Force, and calling in foreign Aid, they are delivered, their Tyrant abdicated and depos'd, and now they are the disaffected Persons again, and cry for a Tyrant again—— But it is, that they may have a hand in the Matter again, may devour and destroy again; that is, they would have a Government and no Government: These are the People I am now to consider, I shall use them very gently, I shall say a little of them, and a little to them, and so call another Cause.

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# MISCELLANEA.

IN our last *Miscellanea*, I answer'd the Question, What if a Battle in *Flanders* should happen, and we should be worsted? what if a *Ramellies* or a *Blenheim* should go against us there——— And I have advanced this Notion of my own, how it may correspond with other Peoples, I know not—I say, we are not on the same Foot with *France* as to Victory; if four such Victories, as we have gain'd, had been gain'd against us, as the Confederacy then stood, we had been all broke to pieces, *England* had been driven to her wooden Walls, to defend her Coasts from the Descents of the victorious *French*; and those that have cry'd up these wooden Walls, as an Equivalent to a good Army abroad, would soon have seen their ridiculous Notions, of *England*'s being able to defend her self against all the World, without the Help of Confederacies and Allies, fatally confuted.

And here by the Way, for I cannot omit it; the matchless Conduct and undiscouraged Gallantry of King *William* cannot but be remembred, who had to do with whole and unbroken *France*; that SUN of War in his full Strength shining in his Meridian Glory, who always inferiour in Strength, and labouring with invincible Difficulties, weak, impotent and uncertain Allies, late and deficient Supplies at home, and constant, defeated Enterprizes; bought, sold, betray'd, disap-

disappointed, and frequently beaten, yet kept the Sword in his Hand, kept the Enemy from our Doors, and play'd with the greateſt Skill a loſing Game.

'Tis now the *French* Turn to do the ſame, and I muſt own, they do it with ſtrange Reſolution; who would have expected to ſee *France* in the Field, as early, as ſtrong, as numerous as the Confederates; 80000 Men in the Field in *Flanders*, beſides Garriſons; thirty thouſand Men on the *Rhine*, 4 or 5 Armies in *Spain*; and all this in one Winter, after ſuch a Summer as he had laſt Year; after loſing three ſuch Articles in one Year, as *Barcelona*, *Ramellies* and *Turin*; in all which I cannot doubt, but kill'd, taken Priſoners, and deſerted, he loſt above 100000 Men.

Well, Gentlemen, ſuch an Enemy we have to do with, and 'tis an excellent Argument to quicken both the Courage and Diligence of the Confederacy, for he muſt be beaten again before the Work is done; but this is by the Way.

I am now to ſecond what I advanced laſt Day, *viz.* that a Loſs on our ſide, and a Loſs on the *French* ſide, has this viſible Difference, *viz.* A Loſs on our ſide will only protract the War, and adjourn the Peace; a Loſs on the *French* ſide will haſten the Peace, reduce him to the laſt Extremity, and perhaps quite ruin him. 'Tis ſaid, that when the Duke *de Villeroy* ſaw the *French* Troops broken at *Ramellies*, and that he had brought up all his Reſerves, and could not ſtand the Shock, he ſtood ſpeechleſs for ſome time; and then caſting his Arms abroad in a Rage of Grief, cry'd out, *Voila le France & Perdre, France* is loſt—And indeed he had Reaſon to think ſo—But ſhould ſuch another Battle be loſt, I believe, the King of *France* himſelf would ſay ſo too; but I come to illuſtrate what I ſay by two Inſtances juſt in View, I mean the Battle of *Turin*, and the Battle of *Almanza*; in theſe two Caſes, the Differences between the State of the *French* Affairs, and thoſe of the Confederates, is particularly ſeen.

In *Italy*, no ſooner is the great Battle of *Turin* fought, and the *French* Affairs overthrown there, but they immediately prepare to abandon *Italy*, to ſave their Forces, and withdraw into their own Territories, like the Animal Spirits to the Heart.

On the other hand, what is the Language of the Confederates on the Loſs of the Battle of *Almanza*, nothing but hiring of Tranſports, ſhipping of Stores, ſtopping the March of Troops to *Naples*, ſending Forces from all Parts; and in ſhort renewing the War, redoubling our Force, and ſuccouring King *Charles*; of which I ſhall come more particularly to ſpeak in its Turn.

Here now is the true Difference of the Circumſtances of the *French*, and the Confederate Armies, and this would be the Caſe exactly, in the Matter of a Loſs in *Flanders*; and if the *French* pleaſe to make the Experiment, I believe, I may very ſafely appeal to the Conſequence.

Till therefore I ſee farther into this Part of the War, I have done with that Queſtion; I firmly believe, the *French* will not fight, if it be poſſible to avoid it, nor are the Boaſts and Rhodomontades ſpread about of their Reſolution to ſtand a Battle, at all an Argument againſt my Opinion, but rather for it; there are a great many Ends anſwer'd by making an Appearance for fighting; ſuch as encouraging the Soldiery, trying their Spirits, making obſervations on their Temper, and keeping up their diſcouraged Hearts; ſuch as amuſing the Enemy, and by bold Marches keeping them in conſtant Expectation of Battle, and ſo prevent their undertaking any Siege, or making any great Attempt.

And indeed in this Caſe the *French* have ſome Advantage in *Flanders*; in that the Confederates have all the open great Towns in *Brabant* and *Flanders* to cover, which if they ſhould puſh into the the *French* Conqueſts, unleſs the *French* can be forced to fight, thoſe Towns will be abandon'd to the Mercy of the *French*, and therefore the Confederates can make no remote Attempt in *Flanders*, unleſs they can either force the *French* to fight, or are ſtrong enough to divide their Army; and covering *Brabant* with one Army, advance upon ſome Expedition with the other.

This is apparent, in the firſt Step the Armies took in *Flanders* this Year, whe-

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the *French* coming out of their Lines, and advancing to the Plains of *Flerus*, oblig'd the Confederate Army to return, quit their Deſigns, and immediately advance to *Louvain* and the *Dyle*, to cover *Bruſſels*, *Bruges*, *Louvain*, *Malins*, and theſe open Towns, which would otherwiſe have been immediately ruin'd by the *French*. This is the State of the Caſe now; what it may be e're this Paper comes to be printed, I know not; but the Reader will allow for the Diſtance of Place it is wrote in, and about 20 Days before it can in courſe come to the Preſs.

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Now that this is moſt likely to be true of me only, conſider, 1*ſt*, That no other Man hath ſo great a Name. 2*dly*, So great Practice. 3*dly*, Such Succeſs in Cures in general. 4*thly*, Such large Catalogues of Cures as in this Bill; I believe ten times larger than all others if they were all put together, which yet chiefly ſpeak of Perſons that can tell you of Abundance that I have cur'd in City and Country beſides themſelves, which yet are but Hints of what I have done, (for few, very few are willing to let me put them into my Bill.) 5*thly*, Many of them in the Bill were extraordinary for Age and Badneſs. 6*thly*, The great Induſtry that hath been us'd by many far and near to buy or ſteal my Art; it is the latter, *viz.* the Thieves and Robbers only I blame; why elſe ſhould that Quack ſay, *Buckle-ſtreet* is in *Goodmans Fields*, unleſs he would be thought to be the Man in *Goodmans Fields*, as I have been commonly call'd far and near? ☞ For *Buckle-ſtreet* is in *Penn's-Gardens* in *White-Chapel*. And why elſe ſhould that Quack in *Well-cloſe* ſell his Truſſes in City and Country in my Name, and ſay he is BARTLETT of *Goodmans Fields*? And why elſe ſhould that Black-ſmith in *Goodmans Fields* break one of my Truſſes in pieces, and ſlightly joyn it together, and then ſhew it, and ſay, ſee what ſad Work this BARTLETT doth, this great Pretender; and ſee how rotten it is, and breaks it before them, and when they are gone, ſlightly mends it again to ſhew it to the next? This and much more his Intimates, *&c.* ſay was his common Practice. And why ſhould the Splenetick Widow that ſells Linnen Cloath in *Eaſt-Smithfield*, and her Friends, ſo much aſſiſt theſe Men to rail at me in City and Country, if 'twore not purpoſely to ruin me, tho' I believe 'twill prove their Ruin only; For now BARTLETT of *Goodmans Fields* dwells in *George's Fields*, *Southwark*, ſo that their baſe Juggling is ſpoil'd: But my Son, who is in his 22*d* Year, and well underſtands the Buſineſs, keeps the old Houſe by the Tavern in *Preſcot-ſtreet* in *Goodmans Fields*, *London*. We have agreed for the Publick Good and our Credit, to aſſiſt each other, (tho parted and each for our ſelves) ſo that our Patients have a double Benefit, *viz.* Two Artiſts to aſſiſt them without deſiring any ſecond Reward, unleſs the Circumſtances be extraordinary.

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*Note*, We forge and finiſh all our ſelves, which makes our Inventions the moſt uſeful.

C. BARTLETT of George's-Fields.
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